GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4115
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
Development of Rural Tourism
Tumane Shri Krupal Balaji

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge potential of developing rural tourism in the country;
(b) the number of districts/villages in the country which have been identified and developed as rural tourists places during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
(c) whether the Government has received proposals/suggestions from various States and UTs in this regard; and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, Ministry of Tourism has identified Rural Circuit as one of the 13 thematic circuits under Swadesh Darshan Scheme to provide a unique experience to travellers visiting the country and, at the same time, develop lesser known destinations located in remote areas of the country.

The Projects for development of tourism related infrastructure, including rural tourism projects/proposals, are identified for development under the circuit in consultation with the State Governments/UTs and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence of scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

Rural Tourism projects at Kalhota Marmat in Doda District and Banimulla in Kulgam District of Jammu and Kashmir were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.131.05 lakh in 2014-15 under the earlier scheme of Product Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Circuits, which has been delinked from Union Support with effect from 2015-16.

No project has been sanctioned under the Rural Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
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